



ASSOCIATION OF
MARIANIST UNIVERSITIES

AMU LINKS

Winter Newsletter

February, 2014

Thomas F. Giardino, S.M.
Executive Director
Association of Marianist
Universities

Minita E. Santizo, MEA
Associate Director
Association of Marianist
Universities

Dear Friends,

We hope that 2014 is off to a positive beginning for you in all respects.

As we send to you the third *AMU LINKS* Newsletter of this academic year, we'd like to remind you that its style is cooperative in nature. Its purpose is to exchange information among the three Marianist universities on events of special interest and to promote professional development around our Catholic and Marianist traditions. As we continue to build the AMU website, we also hope that you can help us in furthering its development by contributing news, stories, projects, or by even offering a reflective piece on your dedication to education in a Marianist institution of higher learning, while keeping in mind the Marianist mission of serving the common good of the Church and the world.

We'd love to hear from you, so please offer us some feedback on the *AMU LINKS* newsletter by contacting

Minita E. Santizo, Associate Director of AMU and Editor, *AMU Links* at: msantizo@stmarytx.edu.

You may also contact Bro. Thomas F. Giardino, SM, Executive Director AMU at: giardinot1@udayton.

Walking with Adele on a University Campus: A Testimony

By Sr. Grace Walle, FMI, D. Min.

Fr. Chaminade was a man dedicated to Mary. He had a passion for educating in faith and for developing lay communities, all with unwavering courage and determination for mission. But did you also know he had a keen insight for partnering with women and trusting a woman's intuition? Let me introduce you to Adele de Batz de Trenqueleon, the founder of the Marianist Sisters. Events in her early life led her to dedicate herself to helping women and the poor and have influenced my life as a campus minister at St. Mary's University.

Adele was born in 1789 into an aristocratic family. Her mother taught her to live a life of faith, even in the most trying times. The baroness helped the poor & sick by sharing food & clothing, selling her own jewelry to fund these efforts. During the French Revolution, Adele's family experienced exile and later amnesty. While enjoying the benefits of wealth and education, Adele's family's influence led her to identify with the poor and the injustices they experienced. She is often known as an "Aristocrat for the Poor."

Adele, living out her baptismal commitment, was fifteen years old when she formed a network of friends called "The Association." The group of lay women wanted to carry on good deeds as well as sustain each other in prayer. By 1808 there were approximately sixty members and by 1814, there were two hundred. If she lived today, I am sure Adele would have enjoyed the benefits of e-mail!



Adele de Batz de Trenqueleon

Adele was put into contact with Fr. William Joseph Chaminade, the director of the Sodality in Bordeaux, France. They began corresponding regularly and saw common concerns and commitments. Chaminade recognized Adele's dedication to God, her spiritual maturity, leadership and her determination to reconstruct the faith of France. By 1816 the Marianist Sisters were born, preceding the foundation of the Marianist Brothers by a year.

Since I have been at St. Mary's University for thirty-one years in campus ministry, I may not have the youth that Adele had, but I do have her enthusiasm for the mission. I served for eleven years in undergraduate campus ministry and over twenty years as the full-time campus minister at our Law School. My mission is to provide law students, faculty and staff with an experience of an educational community, support for faith development and service to the community. This is the setting where I have seen the subtle influence of Adele in my life at the University. I relate to her in her creativity for serving the needs of her neighbors and for her developing community throughout the countryside. As Charles Cantu, Dean of our Law School publically describes me, I am one who not only feeds the hungry law students with my infamous table of peanut butter and jelly but also attends to their spiritual hungers.

Adele could have enjoyed the "good life." Instead, she chose to cast her lot with the poor, identifying with those most marginalized. Much like Adele, I have resources and education. Fortunately, I am in a profession that encourages outreach to the underserved and those with low income. Through our *pro bono* and clinical programs held at the Center for Legal & Social Justice, our students work with low-income clients, many of whom are homeless. This experience not only helps the student consider the legal obstacles but also the emotional, spiritual, and economic challenges their clients face.



In addition, law ministry offers opportunities to work in the San Antonio community. Mentoring mock trials for high schools students, a Halloween party for children from the area shelters, and collecting toys for our University Police toy drive are part of this ministry. I have also coordinated the Spring Break service trips to three cities in Texas and New Orleans for the last nine years. I have played a major role in the funding, planning, and organization of many of these service opportunities. I have worked with the students as we hear firsthand the stories of poverty and the attempts of those families to overcome these obstacles. The *pro bono* program of the law ministry have received recognition by winning the National Catholic Campus Ministry Association's "Educating for Justice Award," and from several San Antonio legal organizations that work with our law school in providing legal assistance for the poor...echoes of Adele.

As a Marianist Sister in North America I have grown into my awareness that I am a steward of Adele's special gifts to the Church. I appreciate the many collaborative opportunities within our Marianist Family. I organized St. Mary's "Blessing of Women," held on the Feast of the Annunciation, part of Women's History Month activities, as a means of sharing Adele's story. In the same spirit of Adele, I have risked new ideas, changed a plan, or adapted to needs as I share the Gospel message and support the mission of St. Mary's. As Adele says in one of her letters that now gives me pause for reflection: "We shall not be working alone. The Lord will be working with us; and with him . . . what can we not do?" (*Letter of Adele 273.5*)

While Adele's life is not as well known in the Marianist Family, in the last ten years the spirit of Adele began moving among the young adults in the Marianist Family. Because of Adele's youthful age, vibrant personality and interest in responding to the needs of the poor, young adults began to relate to her with new interest. Young adults, having experienced Marianist ministry, learned the power of community and are involved in the concerns for building a just world. A gathering of the *Adele Social Justice Project* team will take place on Feb 7 -8, 2014 and interested young adults will meet in San Antonio at St. Mary's University. Along a related line, a *Marianist Women's Summit* will be held at University of Dayton on Oct 17 -19, 2014.

Mother Adele's relational style along with her traits of openness and listening were complementary to Fr. Chaminade's gift of strategizing. He trusted her intuition and insights and she trusted his spiritual guidance. We can celebrate and learn much from Adele and Chaminade about the collaborative nature of our mission on Marianist university campuses.

If you are in San Antonio, and would like to learn more about Adele, there will be a “Walk with Adele” sponsored by ASJP on Saturday, March 22, 2014 from 10AM – 4PM. It will be at the FMI Sisters’ House, 235 Ligustrum Ave. San Antonio.

Association of Marianist Universities Lecture Series Features Zukowski

Angela Ann Zukowski, MSHS, D.Min., professor and Director of the Institute for Pastoral Initiatives at the University of Dayton, visited St. Mary’s University on Jan. 22 to speak in the Association of Marianist Universities Lecture Series.

In addition to her presentation at St. Mary's University, Sr. Angela also shared her concern with the deeper impact of technological developments and how to live with them while holding sacred the meaning of being human, at the annual joint Chaminade/Saint Louis Faculty and Staff Luncheon on Feb. 12 at Chaminade University. Sister Angela will offer a similar presentation at the University of Dayton at the University of Dayton on Monday March 24 at 6 in the Meyer Room at the River Campus.



Sister Angela Ann Zukowski

Sister Zukowski presented “The Art of Being Human in a Digital Civilization” in University Center – Conference Room A. The event was sponsored by the Office of Mission and Rector and the Marianist Educational Associates (MEA).

Sister Zukowski researches the design of prototypes for interactive e-learning for Catholic education, adult faith, lay ecclesial leadership and catechist formation through the Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation and online graduate programs at the University of Dayton. She is particularly interested in the impact digital culture has on the human identity in the 21st century.

If you wish to view Sr. Angela's presentation at St. Mary's University you can access it on iTunes. Click on the tab for the 2014 lecture.

<http://deimos3.apple.com/WebObjects/Core.woa/Browse/stmarytx.edu.20426922480>

AMU News

2014 Marianist Universities Immersion Los Angeles

From January 4-12, students and staff from the three Marianist universities gathered in Los Angeles to share a mission rooted in the Gospel and the Marianist Charism. During that week students met with L.A. based Marianists, and worked with people in the community in shelters, kitchens, and parishes. They shared a sense of true family through the daily gatherings with the people they served, through daily prayer, and evening reflection. While encountering one another, they also met Christ through these formative experiences.



Students from Marianist Universities in Los Angeles

For more information, visit the L.A. Immersion blogs at <http://labreakout14.blogspot.com>

AMU Provosts' Meeting

On Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2014, the AMU hosted an all-day meeting of the three university provosts – Dr. Helen Whippy of Chaminade University, Andre Hampton, J.D., of St. Mary's University, and Dr. Joe Saliba of the University of Dayton. Some of the topics discussed at this meeting, held on the University of Dayton campus, included (1) the future of online/distance education; (2) shared governance, faculty formation, and leadership development; and (3) cooperation and collaboration between the three institutions, including adaptation and change. The AMU continues to plan future inter-university meetings, based on the feedback from this gathering, as well as the successful Campus Ministry staffs' gathering held in May 2013 at St. Mary's University in San Antonio.



Dr. Joe Saliba, Andre Hampton, J.D., and Dr. Helen Whippy